

2 Corinthians 5:17 God the Creator - Lent March 10, 1993

“So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away, see, everything has become new.” - 2 Corinthians 5:17

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Water. Two parts hydrogen, one part oxygen. H Two O. Water.

I'll bet there is a twinkle in God's eye when he thinks about water.

Back before there was anything but God. Before space and time and universe, when all that we know as creation was only first being planned in the mind of God, maybe God had thoughts that went like this.

I need something to get those folks I'm going to create clean - something to wash them with.

I need a place for fish to live, and oysters and lobsters and whales.

I need something to turn the world white while it is resting through winter, to bring a beauty that will help people to remember that I have given them life.

I need something to break up rocks to make soil, through freezing and thawing to take great boulders and make them into the tiniest of pebbles in which plants can grow.

I need something in which many things can be dissolved, like coffee, and Kool-Aid, Pepsi, something without much taste so that it can carry many different tastes.

I need something that will change from gas to liquid and liquid to gas to run great steam turbines to produce electricity, and for clouds to move the stuff from the places where fish will swim to the earth where plants will grow.

I need something to put into a drink so it will be cold, and the tired and the weary will be refreshed.

I need something hard and smooth and slippery for children to skate upon.

And something soft and slippery to cover the hills with so that children can sled.

I need something to rush in great rivers and to fall great distances so that people will shine lights upon it and marvel at the beauty I have created.

I need something that will form white puffs in the sky so that every child can look up and see a constantly changing display of shapes and figures.

And God created water to do all of this and a thousand more things.

Yes, there must have been a twinkle in the eye of God as God first thought of water.
And of you.

Psalm 139 is a prayer to God that says it in this way: “For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.”

God made water, and you. Neither water, nor you are an accident, a chance happening.
“I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth”, we confess.

In the catechism Luther teaches us to confess: “I believe that God has created me and all that exists.”

When it comes to the all that exists part, most people would agree. We look at all we see and say, this all had to have a beginning - a source – a plan.

Oh, there are some that say creation created itself. But I have a difficult time taking them very seriously. With Luther I confess, “I believe God has created me and all that exists.”

And created you.

Now I know a little about biology. I know that my life began when a sperm from my father entered the egg in my mother, and I began to grow within her. I know that your life began in the same way within your mother. How can we confess that God created us?

How can I say, “I believe that God created me”?

For Luther and for the Biblical writers creation was not finished long ago. Complete.

When the psalmist speaks of God forming her or him in the mother's womb, faith is expressed that God is in creation even now. God is bringing forth what has never before been, even now. In you.

God is at work in you. Still creating.

A Down's syndrome child is a creation of God.

And so is a genius.

And you.

Say it in your heart: I believe that God has created me and all that exists.

The God who was so creative as to be able to think of water, has saved an even better creation for now. God is only beginning with you: for God wants to make your spirit new. God shaped and formed you and shapes and forms you still that he might make you new.

If you want a peek at what God wants to make of you, take a look at Jesus. Keep your eyes on Jesus.

“So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away, see, everything has become new.”

That is what God has planned for you.